Babel Inspected:

OR,

An IMPARTIAL VIEW

OF THE

Novelty, Cruelty, Tyranny, Absurdity, Usurpation, and Confusion,

OF THE

NEW CONSTITUTION,

And its AUTHORS,

In a separating Course from the ASSOCIATE SYNOD.

GLASGOW:

Printed in the Year, MDCCXLIX.

BABEL INSPECTED, &c.

LET every Soul be fill'd with Dread and Fear,
When Churches once unite, Heav'n ſeems to tear;
Foes, at their Peril, in Deriſion
May mock and flout at this Confuſion:
But Zion's God ſits firmly on his Throne.

2 An *Anathema* for *fictitious Crimes*,
The *Upſtart Court* with Rage did paſs betimes;
But Heav'n derides, and, with an awful Frown,
Will break their Plots, and ſhake their *Babel* down.

3 By ſev'ral old Reports, I've underſtood
That *Harlot Rome* was founded upon Blood.
Rome Pagan firſt, then *Papal Rome*, 'tis true,
In Martyrs Blood her hot Hands did embrue.

4 But will this *New coin'd Sanhedrim* advance,
And Zion build with Blood and Violence;
What? nothing leſs than Fire and Blood! Are ſuch
Materials fit to build the Goſpel Church?

5 The Goſpel Breath and Spirit where he's given,
Surely won't lead to call for Fire from Heav'n
To burn up even *Samaritans*, far leſs
Zion's true Sons will curſe, but rather bleſs.

6 This haſty Conſtitution's *Baſe* was laid
With heavy Stones, and Beams all dyed red;
Beſmear'd with Blood of Offices and Names,
Which they have caus'd to run in plenteous Streams.

7 For firſt they *hang* outright, and then they *judge*;
They *Cupar Juſtice* give, without a Grudge;
Yea, *hang again*, leaſt any Life remain:
But feeble Rage is wholly ſpent in vain.

8 Great *thundering Bulls* againſt ſome *Paſtors* roar,
Their *noiſy Cracks* are heard the *Iſland* o'er,
Becauſe to human Dictates they won't kneel,
Their angry Brethren give them to the De'il.

9 And for the reſt, a Blow at Meeting next,
If they don't ſtoop at that Time, or betwixt,
Out comes th' Eccleſiaſtick final Blow,
A *Punie Farce* or *Cenſure* in a *Show*.

10 Some *Pinacles* may after that be rear'd,
For *Tops* to all, it is much to be fear'd,
Which may attract the Obſervation
Of Generations preſent, and to come.

11 From this new Conſtitution I'll retire,
Let its new Zealots all its Cuts admire;
Tho' paſſingly, perhaps, I'll give't a View,
And ſo paſs on, until I ſay Adieu.

12 If it is aſked, who the Parties are
Who get this Treatment from this *Upſtart Bar?*
They're *Miniſters*, in Office every One,
Their publick Character attack does none.

13 Their Orthodoxy and their Morals both
To cenſure, their Accuſers are fell loath;
Yet, with black Mouths of Calumny quite full,
Alledge, they do the Work of God down pull.

14 Yea ſome of them a ſtanding long have had,
(Not Novices) oppoſing what was bad.
For Piety and Soundneſs alwiſe fam'd
Tho' now as *Apoſtates* are falſly blam'd.

15 Were Friends to Reformation all along,
Pleading for Truth in the oppoſing Throng,
For which they oft did meet with heavy Routs,
When ſome young Zealots were in Swadling Clouts.

16 The *Abjuration*, when it was impos'd,
Had many Flaws by ſome of them diſclos'd;
Who alſo ſhunn'd Submiſſion in that Caſe,
Altho', as yet *Seceſſion* took not place.

17 In the Years *Twenty*, and in *Twenty two*,
When thro' the *Marrow*'s Sides Truth got a Blow,
They for it then a bold Appearance made,
Truth kept the Field, and all its Friends were glad.

18 Soon after, when the *Arian* Blaſphemy
Set up its old black Head, moſt daringly,
It, and its Broachers both, they did diſclaim,
As En'mies to *Immanuel*'s glorious Name.

19 When

19 When *Lairds*, and *Lords*, and *Courts* did all com-
To ſpoil the Flock of Chriſt of Rights divine, [bine,
To chooſe the Paſtors, who their Souls might feed,
And might not give a Stone, inſtead of Bread;

20 Swarms of *Intruders* then, were turned bold,
By any Hole, to climb into the Fold,
To fleech and ſcatter the poor tender Sheep,
Who, for their Food, muſt to the Mountains creep.

21 'Gainſt this Oppreſſion, and Tyranny,
With Zeal and Courage, they did teſtify;
For then they ſtrove, with all their Might and Main,
To free the Flock from Violence again.

22 This, in the other's eye, was ſuch a Crime,
They brought them ſoon before their Court ſupreme,
And, were by them, leſt they ſhould have the Vogue,
By *one poor Vote*, expell'd their *Synagogue*.

23 But it is worthy to obſerve, that here
No *Excommunications* did appear;
And now it was that the *Seceſſion*
Was ſtated *firſt*, only by *four* alone.

24 With Moderation, Unity and Peace,
A Teſtimony framed was apace,
For born-down Truth and Reformation,
Againſt the Church's ſad Defection.

25 Their former Principles they did eſpouſe,
The corrupt Practices they did refuſe,
To true Religion *ſettled*, ſhew'd Reſpect,
Tho' as to *Manner ſettling*, own'd Defect.

26 Betwixt Things that are Humane and Divine,
They did proceed, ſtrictly diſtinguiſhing;
Some Things they laid as *Grounds* of the *Seceſſion*,
Others of *Faſting*, Mourning and Confeſſion.

27 Theſe are the Men they Excommunicate,
Theſe are their Principles and preſent State,
Who may, if helped on this Ground to ſteer,
Laugh at the ſhaking of their Brethren's Spear.

28 But, if 'tis further aſked, Who they be,
Who in Self-righteous Fury, thus let flie
Their Fire-brands, Arrows, Wrath and Death, at all,
To worſhip their Decrees, who will not fall.

29 They're

29 They're Men, who in the former things concur'd,
Till Ancient Principles were ſadly blurr'd;
Croſs'd in a *Vote*, they inſtantly revolt,
Then throw out their hot-burning Thunderbolt.

30 When they had once this woful Rupture made,
A *Split New Conſtitution* they down laid;
The Grounds, the Terms, the Faſhion, all were new,
Of which a little we have heard juſt now.

31 When this Tribunal's reared up, alas!
They ſlew their Brethren in their Offices,
And then to ſummond them they did proceed;
They judg'd and doom'd them. after they were dead.

32 Here frantick Fury in a Cloak of Zeal,
In room of Juſtice, Malice under Vail;
Here Uſurpation in a legal Maſk,
And Tyranny performing all the Taſk.

33 Here groſſeſt Theft in Honeſty's Diſguiſe;
Robb'ry and Spoil in lieu of lawful Prize;
Preſumptuous Self-Applauſe, in humble Dreſs;
Ill put for Good, when view'd in *Fancy*'s Glaſs.

34 Here Laws of Men, for Rules ſet up anon;
God's ſacred Name prophan'd in Scripture Tone;
Here Father-killing, Oh! a monſtrous Caſe,
And Murder in a righteous Judgment's Place.

35 Here *Presbyterians* ſpewing *Popiſh* Fire;
And *Prelates*, in a *Presbyterian* Tyre;
Here haughty Lords, ſtanding in Servants Stead;
Dominion clothed in a Helper's Weed.

36 Here is *Imagination*'s ſpurious *Brat*,
As ſacred Truth cramm'd down the Church's Throat.
Diotrephes the proud, here climbs the Stair,
Beating around, he mounts into the Chair.

37 Here *Elders* Faces are not honoured,
Shame and Diſgrace pour'd on the hoary Head;
Here all the Bands of Brother-hood thrown by,
They give the greateſt Blows, who loudeſt cry.

38 Here ſacred *Covenants* made *Party Bands*;
Fancies confirmed with *Uplifted* Hands;
Here *Pulpits* ring with falſe and bitter Words,
And Churches *Keys* turn'd into *Staves* and *Swords*.

39 Here

39 Here Solemn Vows renounced for *New Light*;
And * SETTLEMENTS view'd with *Eraſtian* Sight;
Here is the Church all into Pieces torn,
Her Sons expoſed to Contempt and Scorn.

40 Here Goſpel Succeſs alſo greatly marr'd;
Many misled, and many greatly ſcarr'd;
Here Hearts are broken with inceſſant Grief,
Our Breach is great, and nothing like Relief.

41 Here *Old March Stones* ly torn up by the Root,
Here ſacred Cenſures alſo proſtitute;
Here Elders Pow'r and Office clipped ſhort,
And all expoſed to the *Gallio*'s Sport.

42 But Time would fail me, to enum'rate all
The Facts and Fruits, which bitter are like Gall,
Which from this Schiſm fertilely do ſpring,
Making the Ears of ev'ry one to ring.

43 O, tell it not in *Gath*, for ſhame to none,
Nor publiſh't in the Streets of *Aſkelon*,
Leaſt the *Uncircumciſed* ſhould rejoice,
And up in ſcornful Triumph lift their Voice.

44 But of Iniquity ſhall the proud Throne
Have Fellowſhip with *Iſra'l*'s holy One?
Who *new coin'd Fancies* frame into a Law,
And on their Brethrens Backs deep Furrows draw.

45 The doleful Rupture's reckoned anon
A noble Stand for Reformation,
And all their † TRENTISH Canons ſince that Time,
Of equal Force with Oracles Divine.

46 This *Babel* Work may tour up for a while,
But can Proſperity attend ſuch Guile?
Theſe *Innovators* ſhall *unmaſked* be,
Unto their Shame, when off the Miſts do flee,

47 Which they have been permitted to caſt out,
To fogg the Church's Air, and bring in Doubt
The Matters, which have hitherto been clear,
Renting their Mothers Bowels without Fear.

48 Won't

* *Viz.* The Settlement of Religion 1592 and 1690, and why not 1640 alſo, by the ſame Rule?

† Like thoſe of the Council of TRENT.

48 Won't he rebuke this horrid Inſolence,
This Force and Rage, Oppreſſion, Violence?
The Wrath of Man we hope ſhall praiſe him then,
And the Remainder thereof he'll reſtrain.

49 This of Temptation is the very Hour,
Of Darkneſs and Deluſion, the Pow'r.
Many are walking in a pathleſs Way,
No human Arm, nor Suaſion, can them ſtay.

50 When *Satan* looks out, like an *Angel fair*,
Mighty religious like, he'll toſs his Air,
And ruin the true Chriſtian in Shew,
With a *Stand by, I'm holier than thou.*

51 And thus he'll ride, and ſpur, and drag the Church,
Until he plunge her in ſome pudling Lurch,
And when ſhe's once diſgrac'd, imperiouſly
He'll triumph over her Adverſity.

52 The Church's ſad Experience will ſhow
That he this Way to work doth often go,
Whereby he more ſucceſsfully doth ſhoot,
Than when he fairly ſhows his *Cloven Foot.*

53 But yet we fain would hope for better Days,
Becauſe that Zion's king the Scepter ſways,
He's in the Church, altho' he ſeem aſleep,
While ſhe doth roul and tumble in the Deep.

54 While ſhe is toſſed like a Ship at Sea,
And windy Storms are beating furiouſly,
Her Lord doth rule upon the raging Main,
And by a Word he ſtilleth all again.

55 Then ſhall our *Swords* into *Plow-ſhares* be ſtruck,
Each warlike Spear into a Pruning-hook,
Zion ſhall yet an Habitation be
Of Peace, and Pleaſure, Truth and Unity.

GLASGOW, October 20th, 1749.

FINIS.